

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOGADI 01407 161056Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /129 W

----- 026058

R 160920Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2243

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1407

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR ET SO US

SUBJ: SOMALI REACTION TO ETHIOPIAN EVENTS

1. PRESIDENT SIAD, ON HIS RETURN SEPT. 14 FROM AFRICAN TOUR, COMMENTED ON VARIETY OF SUBJECTS INCLUDING ETHIOPIA. OFFICIAL SONNA NEWS BULLETIN REPORTED SIAD SAYING, "THERE IS NOTHING STRANGE IN WHAT IS HAPPENING RIGHT NOW IN ETHIOPIA. THE CHANGE IS PURELY A DOMESTIC PROBLEM AND THE ETHIOPIANS SHOULD BE LEFT ALONE TO CLEAR OUT THEIR INTERNAL AFFAIRS. NO COUNTRY, BE IT AFRICAN OR OTHERWISE, HAS THE RIGHT TO INTERFERE".

2. OTHER THAN SIAD COMMENT, SOMALI MEDIA HAVE CARRIED ONLY RATHER BRIEF, FACTUAL ITEMS ABOUT DEPOSITION OF HAILE SELASSIE AND RELATED EVENTS IN ETHIOPIA. WIDELY HEARD BBC BROADCASTS IN SOMALI LANGUAGE HAVE KEPT LOCAL LISTENERS ABREAST OF DEVELOPMENTS. TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE, APART FROM SIAD COMMENT, THERE HAVE BEEN NO OFFICIAL EXPRESSIONS OF GOVERNMENT OPINION OR EDITORIAL COMMENTS ABOUT ETHIOPIA SINCE DEPOSITION OF EMPEROR.

3. SEPT. 6 EDITION (BEFORE EMPEROR'S DEPOSITION) OF "INDEPENDENT" WEEKLY HORSEED CARRIED LONG ARTICLE IN ITALIAN ENTITLED "PENTAGON BEHIND ETHIOPIAN COUP D' ETAT", WHICH INTERPRETED RISE OF GENERAL AMAN AS DUE TO US DECISION THAT EMPEROR WAS

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MOGADI 01407 161056Z

SINKING SHIP, WITH US THEREFORE SELECTING GENERAL AMAN AS BEST

LEADER TO PROTECT INTERESTS OF "IMPERIALISM". HORSEED SEPT. 13
AGAIN CRITICIZED US POSITION ON SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN DISPUTE, BUT
WITHOUT COMMENT ON INTERNAL ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENTS OR ANY
PERSONAL REFERENCE TO GENERAL AMAN.

4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE GSDR IS STILL RESERVING JUDGMENT ON
EVENTS IN ETHIOPIA, AND THEREFORE CONFINING ITS OFFICIAL COVERAGE
TO REPORTING PRINCIPAL EVENTS WITHOUT DRAWING FINAL CONCLUSIONS.
SIAD'S STATEMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH "HANDS-OFF" POLICY OF GSDR
SINCE BEGINNING OF CURRENT ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENTS; POLICY WHICH
WE EXPECT GSDR IS LIKELY TO CONTINUE, BARRING VIRTUAL DISINTE-
GRATION OF ETHIOPIAN STATE. ACCUSATION IN HORSEED THAT GENERAL
AMAN IS TOOL OF US IMPERIALISM, MADE BEFORE HE BECAME DE FACTO
HEAD OF STATE, COMES NATURALLY TO HORSEED JOURNALISTS, BUT IS
NOT AS YET REFLECTED IN OFFICIAL GSDR MEDIA.
KIRK

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL SITUATION, MONARCHY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 SEP 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOGADI01407
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740258-0730
From: MOGADISCIO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740943/aaaabjzd.tel
Line Count: 77
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOMALI REACTION TO ETHIOPIAN EVENTS
TAGS: PFOR, ET, SO, US, (SIAD BARRE, MOHAMED)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005